

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A mutant APC protein comprising the function of inducing piling up of cells.
2. (Original) The mutant APC protein of claim 1, wherein at least any one of the amino acid regions of (a) to (c) is deleted:
  - (a) C-terminal amino acid region starting from amino acid position 2827 in the APC protein of SEQ ID NO: 1;
  - (b) C-terminal amino acid region starting from amino acid position 2159 in the APC protein of SEQ ID NO: 1; and
  - (c) C-terminal amino acid region starting from amino acid position 860 in the APC protein of SEQ ID NO: 1.
3. (Original) The mutant APC protein of claim 1 or 2, wherein the protein is derived from *Xenopus laevis*.
4. (Currently Amended) A mutant APC protein which can induce piling up of cells, wherein said protein comprises the amino acid sequence of a mutant APC protein of ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, in which one or more amino acids are substituted, deleted, added, and/or inserted.
5. (Currently Amended) A polynucleotide that encodes a mutant APC protein of ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1.
6. (Original) A vector that comprises the polynucleotide of claim 5.

7. (Currently Amended) A cell that comprises an artificially expressed mutant APC protein of ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, or the vector of claim 6.

8. (Original) The cell of claim 7, which is derived from a mammal.

9. (Original) The cell of claim 7, which is derived from *Xenopus laevis*.

10. (Currently Amended) A cell of ~~any one of claims 7 to 9~~ claim 7, which is an established cell line.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for a candidate compound that inhibits piling up of cells, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

- (a) contacting a cell of ~~any one of claims 7 to 9~~ claim 7 with a test compound;
- (b) detecting piling up of said cells; and
- (c) selecting compounds that inhibit the piling up of cells.

12. (Original) A method of screening for a polynucleotide that encodes a mutant APC protein which can induce piling up of cells, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

- (a) introducing *Xenopus laevis*-derived cells with a test polynucleotide to express a mutant APC protein;
- (b) culturing said cells;
- (c) detecting piling up of said cells; and
- (d) selecting polynucleotides that pile up said cells.